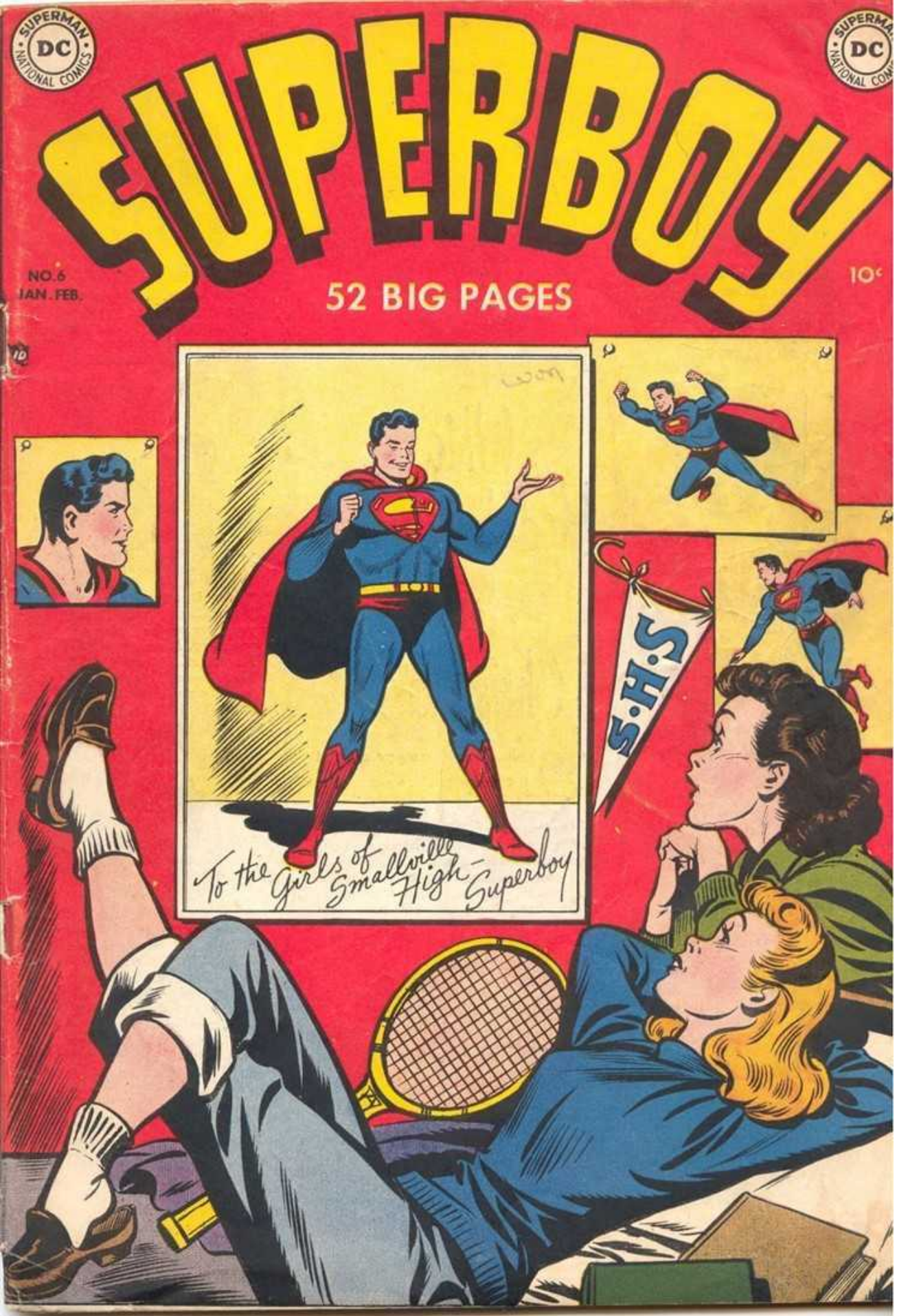
SUPERMAN
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SUPERBOY
52 BIG PAGES
NO. 6
JAN.-FEB.
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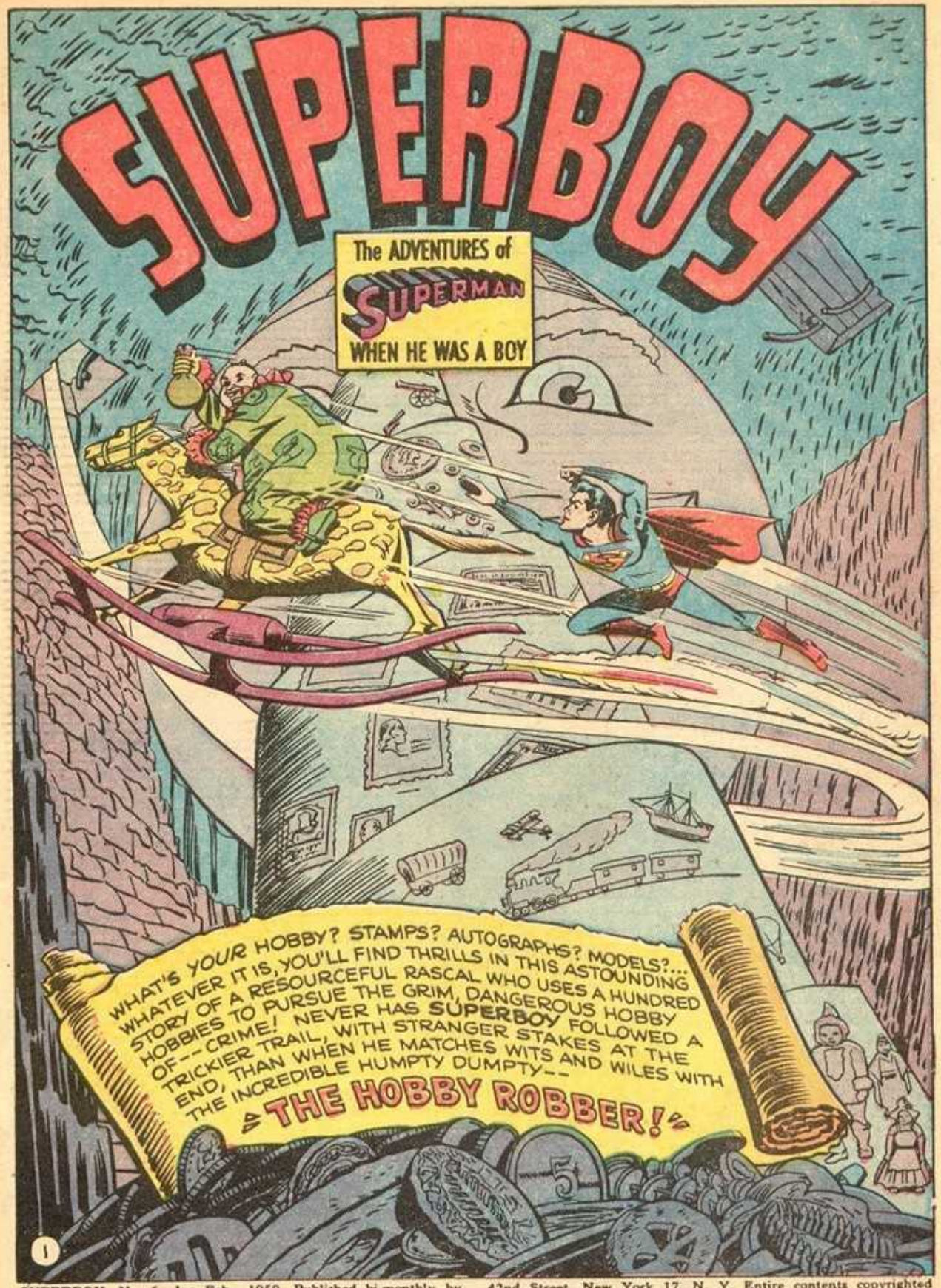
To the Girls of Smallville High - Superboy


SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
WHAT'S YOUR HOBBY? STAMPS? AUTOGRAPHS? MODELS?... WHATEVER IT IS, YOU'LL FIND THRILLS IN THIS ASTOUNDING STORY OF A RESOURCEFUL RASCAL WHO USES A HUNDRED HOBBIES TO PURSUE THE GRIM, DANGEROUS HOBBY OF--CRIME! NEVER HAS SUPERBOY FOLLOWED A TRICKIER TRAIL, WITH STRANGER STAKES AT THE END, THAN WHEN HE MATCHES WITS AND WILES WITH THE INCREDIBLE HUMPTY DUMPTY--
"THE HOBBY ROBBER!"
1

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AS RICH COLLECTORS ATTEND AN AUCTION OF RARE GEMS IN METROPOLIS...
THE SUPERB FLAME OF PERSIA RUBY, GENTLEMEN--THE PRIZE OF THE LOT! WHAT AM I OFFERED?
TWO CENTS!

A FANTASTIC FIGURE FOLLOWS UP HIS FANTASTIC BID WITH ACTION!
GOING--GOING--GONE--TO ME, NATURALLY! HERE'S THE CASH!
PREPOSTEROUS!
WHO LET THAT IN?

A BANG-UP BARGAIN WITH A NET PROFIT! HA, HA!
HELP! POLICE!
BAM BAM
EXPLODING PENNIES! MY WORD!

OUTSIDE...
LUCKY YOU, TO HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF SEEING HUMPTY DUMPTY, HOBBY ROBBER EXTRAORDINARY, IN ACTION!
GREAT SCOTT--IT'S THAT BOUNDER AGAIN!

SO HUMPTY DUMPTY, INCREDIBLE CROOK OF A HUNDRED HOBBIES, BLAZES ANOTHER TRAIL OF TRIUMPH ON HIS ROCKET-POWERED HOBBY HORSE!
HOBBY SEEING YOU! HO, HO, HO!
CRAZIEST THING I EVER SAW!
2

AND IN SMALLVILLE, WHERE CLARK KENT--WHOSE FAVORITE HOBBY IS BEING HIMSELF AS SUPERBOY--PREPARES TO TAKE PART IN A COMING CONVENTION OF COIN COLLECTORS...
AGAIN HOBBYDOM'S HIGH-FLYING HIJACKER HAS HOODWINKED HAPLESS VICTIMS TO STEAL A PRICELESS COLLECTOR'S ITEM!
HMM...MEETING MR. DUMPTY WOULD BE INTERESTING! WONDER IF HE'LL BE INTERESTED IN OUR COIN EXHIBITION...?

AT THIS VERY MOMENT, ON THE RIM OF AN ABANDONED QUARRY NOT FAR FROM SMALLVILLE...

A TOUCH OF A REMOTE-CONTROL BUTTON, AND THE PERFECT RAID ENDS AT THE PERFECT HIDEOUT!...

MY MAGNIFICENT TOWER OF HOBBIES, SAFELY HIDDEN IN THIS WALLED UP NICHE, WHERE SOON THE WORLD'S RAREST TREASURES WILL BE DISPLAYED FOR MY EYES ALONE!

WITHIN THE STRANGE STRUCTURE...

NOW, WITH THE FLAME OF PERSIA, MY GEM COLLECTION ALREADY RANKS WITH THE FINEST PRIVATE ONES! LET ME SEE... WHAT SHOULD BE THE OBJECT OF MY NEXT RAID?

DOLLS, PUPPETS, FIGURINES FROM EVERY LAND AND EVERY AGE! NOT MUCH ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT HERE....

AHA--COINS! PENNIES THAT HAVE BOUGHT BREAD FOR THE POOR, AND GOLD PIECES FOR WHICH BLOOD WAS SHED! BUT SOME OF THE RAREST ITEMS ARE STILL MISSING!

IN THE TOPMOST CHAMBER OF HIS TOWER, HUMPTY DUMPTY CONSULTS A HUGE ALBUM...

POSSIBILITIES FOR HOBBY CRIMES--HUNDREDS OF THEM--KEPT UP-TO-DATE BY CONSTANT RESEARCH! HMM... I RECALL SOME INTERESTING RECENT CLIPPINGS ON COINS....

AH--THE COIN I'VE DREAMED OF! ONLY THRE OR FOUR ARE KNOWN TO EXIST--EACH OF WHICH IS WORTH ALMOST AS MUCH MONEY AS OLD KING CROESUS HAD ALTOGETHER!

I'LL STEAL IT! IT WILL BE MY GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT YET! WHAT IF SMALLVILLE IS SUPERBOY'S HOME TOWN? NO YOUNGSTER WILL EVER OUT-WIT HUMPTY DUMPTY!

WORLD'S FIRST GOLD COINS ISSUED BY CROESUS, TO BE SEEN AT SMALLVILLE MEET!

SCHOOLBOYS AND FAMOUS COLLECTORS TAKE PART IN CONVENTION!

SMALLVILLE COIN SHOW FEATURES RARE ITEMS!

RAREST COIN TO BE SHOWN

GOLD PIECE OF CROESUS WORLD'S RICHEST MAN MADE IN 6TH CENT. B.C.

AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE COIN COLLECTORS' CONVENTION...
CLOSING TIME, DARN IT! THESE EARLIEST GREEK COINS, MADE OF ELECTRUM--AND THE GOLD ONE IN THE MIDDLE, MADE BY CROESUS--SURE ARE SOMETHING, CLARK!
OH, WELL, WE'LL HAVE ALL WEEK TO STUDY THEM!
THE CROESUS COIN

IF WE WERE GUARDS, WE COULD STAY HERE ALL NIGHT!
THEY PROBABLY WISH THEY COULD GO TO TONY'S FOR ICE CREAM, LIKE US!
WITH HUMPTY DUMPTY ON THE LOOSE, GUARDING VALUABLE COLLECTIONS IS NO JOKE!

AND WHAT OF HUMPTY DUMPTY? AT THE HEAD OF A STEEP HILL...
ABRUPTLY...
THEY'VE ALL GONE BUT THE GUARDS! NOW TO GET OLD CROESUS' GOLD PIECE, WITH THIS SPECIAL COIN MINTED BY ME -- THE WORLD'S RICHEST MAN IN HOBBIES!
COIN COLLECTORS' EXHIBIT

SUPERBOY'S SUPERSENSITIVE HEARING AND X-RAY VISION INSTANTLY TELL CLARK KENT WHAT HAS HAPPENED--AND GIVE RISE TO A KNOTTY PROBLEM...
WHAT'S THAT? SOUNDS LIKE AN EXPLOSION!
OH, OH--TROUBLE ALREADY! TIME FOR SUPERBOY TO DO SOMETHING--BUT HOW CAN I CHANGE WITHOUT BEING SEEN?
CRASH

UNNOTICED, CLARK LOOSENS THE JUKE BOX ELECTRIC CORD FROM ITS SOCKET AND PRESSES HIS FINGER AGAINST ITS COPPER PRONGS...
COULD BE A BUILDING COLLAPSING!
IF I CAN SHORT-CIRCUIT THE CURRENT AND BLOW OUT A FUSE....
IT TICKLES!
BZZT
4

AND AN INSTANT LATER THE BOY OF STEEL IS ON THE MOVE!
WHO TURNED OUT THE LIGHTS?
MAYBE THE POWER-HOUSE BLEW UP!
THERE'LL BE SO MUCH EXCITEMENT FOR THE NEXT FEW MINUTES, CLARK KENT WILL NEVER BE MISSED!

MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE AUDITORIUM . . .
HUMPTY DUMPTY!
CORRECT, MY FRIEND!
OH-H-H-H...
WARM, ISN'T IT?
OW-W-W-W!
HANDS UP, FATTY!
TSK, TSK-- TROUBLE-MAKERS! I'LL THROW THEM SOME MONEY TO KEEP THEM AMUSED!
SPICE MONEY-- RED PEPPER, CLOVE, NUTMEG--USED NOT LONG AGO FOR BARTER IN THE BALTIC STATES! HA, HA, HA, HA!
AH-CHOO!
MY EYES!
AND AS SUPERBOY REACHES THE SCENE...
WHAT--?
CHINESE KNIFE MONEY, SUPERBOY-- SHARP, HEAVY AND QUITE CAPABLE OF HURTING PEOPLE! IT WILL KEEP YOU BUSY FOR A COUPLE OF MINUTES!
TA, TA, LITTLE MAN! MEETING YOU HAS BEEN SO PLEASANT, I'LL SEND YOU CLUES TO MY FUTURE RAIDS--JUST TO SEE IF YOU'RE SMART ENOUGH TO FIGURE THEM OUT!
LAUGH WHILE YOU CAN! YOU'LL SPEND A LOT OF GLUM YEARS BEHIND BARS. MUST CATCH THIS KNIFE MONEY HE'S THROWN BEFORE THEY STRIKE THESE MEN!
5

SOME DAYS LATER...
A LETTER FOR SUPERBOY FROM HUMPTY DUMPTY! WISH I KNEW WHAT WAS IN IT!
SO DO I!
AND I WILL, SOON AS I CAN ARRANGE THE CHANCE!
U.S.P.O
MAIL FOR SUPERBOY
COME ON! FOLLOW THE LEADER!
GO AHEAD YOU CAN'T STUMP ME, CLARK!
FIRST OVER--THEN UNDER!
I'LL SWITCH TO MY SUPERBOY GARB IN THE CULVERT!
WE'RE RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
GET A MOVE ON! DON'T LET CLARK THINK HE'S AHEAD OF US!
THIS WILL KEEP THEM GUESSING FOR AWHILE!
DEAR SAP: THE CLUES TO MY NEXT RAID ARE ON THE FIRST COIN EVER MADE IN THESE UNITED STATES! SO BE ON HAND--OR ELSE GO CLIMB A TREE!
A PUZZLE IN POETRY--IF IT CAN BE CALLED THAT!
AS IT HAPPENS, CLARK KENT'S COLLECTION CONTAINS A COIN OF THE FIRST ISSUE MINTED IN THE UNITED STATES--A 1787 FUGIO CENT...
HMM...AN EXHIBIT OF ODD TYPES OF MONEY WILL OPEN THE THIRTEENTH, AT 11 A.M., IN THE CIRCLE MUSEUM, METROPOLIS! HUMPTY DUMPTY MUST PLAN ON ARRIVING AN HOUR EARLY!
A SUN DIAL WITH POINTER COVERING THE TENTH HOUR, AND ON THE OTHER SIDE THIRTEEN CIRCLES LINKED TOGETHER--AND THE MOTTOES: "WE ARE ONE" AND "MIND YOUR BUSINESS!"
THE COIN COLLECTORS BULLETIN
6

PROMPTLY AT 10 O'CLOCK THE MORNING OF THE THIRTEENTH, MUSEUM GUARDS GET THE SHOCK OF THEIR LIVES. . .
JUST THOUGHT I'D DROP IN FOR A PREVIEW!
IT'S HUMPTY DUMPTY! QUICK-- CALL THE POLICE!

AND AS THEY RETREAT BEFORE THE FLAMING BREATH OF THE HOBBY HORSE...
THE HEAT WILL KEEP THEM FROM OPENING THE DOOR FOR A FEW MINUTES-- AND BY THAT TIME I'LL BE ON MY WAY WITH WHAT I CAME FOR. . .

OH, HERE IT IS! A FINE COLLECTION OF MALAY TREE MONEY! ...GUESS SUPERBOY COULDN'T FIGURE OUT THE CLUES I SENT HIM! WONDER IF HE CLIMBED A TREE, AS I SUGGESTED?

YES, SUPERBOY HAS CLIMBED A TREE-- NEARER AT HAND THAN HUMPTY DUMPTY SUSPECTS! AND AS HE FOCUSES HIS AMAZING X-RAY EYES THROUGH A WINDOW. . .
HE'LL FIND IT DOESN'T PAY TO PLAY WITH "HOT MONEY"-- TO COIN AN EXPRESSION!

BETA AND GAMMA RAYS CONVERGE ON THE CURIOUS COINS, GENERATING INTENSE HEAT...
HUH --? THIS MONEY IS GETTING WARM -- HOT -- YIII!
NOW TO CREATE A LITTLE BREEZE TO COOL HIM OFF-- WITH MY SUPER-BREATH!
7

BELL MONEY, USED BY PRIMITIVE AFRICAN TRIBES, MAKES A MORE MUSICAL JINGLE THAN THE KIND MOST AMERICANS ARE USED TO!
TINKLE
TINKLE

NEXT, FROM MY PINE-TREE PERCH, I'LL START A BLIZZARD OF PINE TREE SHILLINGS!
OUCH! SOMETHING TELLS ME SUPERBOY WAS SMARTER THAN I COUNTED ON--AND IT'S TIME TO GET OUT OF HERE!
PINE TREE SHILLINGS, STRUCK IN AMERICAN COLONIES IN 1652
SUPERBOY! SO YOU DID FIGURE OUT MY PUZZLE!
WHAT'S MORE, I CLIMBED A TREE--AND YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF UP IT IN A SECOND!
BUT THE NEXT INSTANT...
HEY! I'LL GET EVEN FOR THIS!
BUT FIRST YOU'LL PINE IN PRISON FOR A FEW--OH, OH! A FIRE IN THE MUSEUM, SET BY THOSE ROCKET BLASTS FROM HIS HOBBY HORSE!
IT'S DESTROYING VALUABLE SPECIMENS OF TEA MONEY AND FEATHER MONEY--PRIMITIVE FORMS OF BARTER USED IN STRANGE PARTS OF THE WORLD! CAN'T USE WATER--AND CAN'T BEAT OUT THE FLAMES--WITHOUT DAMAGING THE STUFF EVEN MORE!
Feather MONEY USED BY NATIVES OF SOLOMON ISLANDS
BRICK TEA MONEY OF BALTIC STATES
AND AS SUPERBOY WASTES PRECIOUS SECONDS EXTINGUISHING THE FLAMES AS GENTLY AS POSSIBLE WITH HIS BARE HANDS...
NOT SUCH A BAD DAY, EVEN IF I DIDN'T GET THE TREE MONEY! I OUTWITTED SUPERBOY, AND PICKED UP SOME RARE BELL MONEY TO ADD TO MY COLLECTION!
JINGLE JANGLE JINGLE
8
MEANWHILE...
NICE WORK, SUPERBOY! YOU SAVED ONE OF OUR MOST VALUABLE EXHIBITS! TOO BAD HUMPTY DUMPTY GOT AWAY!
HE DIDN'T, ENTIRELY! HE LEFT A TRAIL BEHIND--OF SOUND!
JINGLE JANGLE JINGLE

SUPERSENSITIVE HEARING GUIDES THE BOY OF STEEL ALONG AN INVISIBLE TRAIL MARKED BY THE GHOSTLY TINKLING OF AFRICAN BELLS...
NOTHING IN SIGHT--BUT THE BELLS ARE RINGING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT WALL OF ROCK!
TINKLE TINKLE TINKLE
SUDDENLY...
WHAT--? AN UNDERGROUND TOWER--WHACKIER THAN ANYTHING I EVER SAW YET IN A HOBBYIST'S COLLECTION!
HA, HA, HA! I WIN AGAIN! ONE OF THESE DAYS I'LL ADD SUPERBOY TO MY COLLECTION--OF DUMMIES!
SOON I'LL HAVE THE MOST MAGNIFICENT COIN ROOM IN THE WORLD! BEAUTIES--ALL OF THEM--WITH CHARACTER OF THEIR OWN, AS IF THEY WERE ALIVE!
THERE'S AN IDEA! I'LL MAKE THEM COME TO LIFE!
TINKLE TINKLE
EARLY GREEK COINS
EARLY GREEK COINS OF ELECTRUM--A MIXTURE OF GOLD AND SILVER! I'LL RUB MY FINGERS TOGETHER TO CHARGE MYSELF WITH ELECTRICITY...
AND GIVE HIM AN ELECTRUM SHOCK HE'LL REMEMBER!
YIPE!
A BOMBARDMENT OF INDIAN SHELL MONEY--A SHOWER OF FALLING WILLOW LEAF MONEY FROM BURMA--AND A BARRAGE OF SHARP MALAY SPEAR COINS, SUITABLE FOR PIN MONEY!
THE PLACE IS HAUNTED! LET ME OUT!
9

STONE FEI MONEY USED BY NATIVES OF THE ISLE OF YAP--GOOD FOR 10,000 COCONUTS OR ONE WIFE! FUN, EH, HUMPTY DUMPTY?
SUPERBOY--ALWAYS TURNING UP LIKE A BAD PENNY!

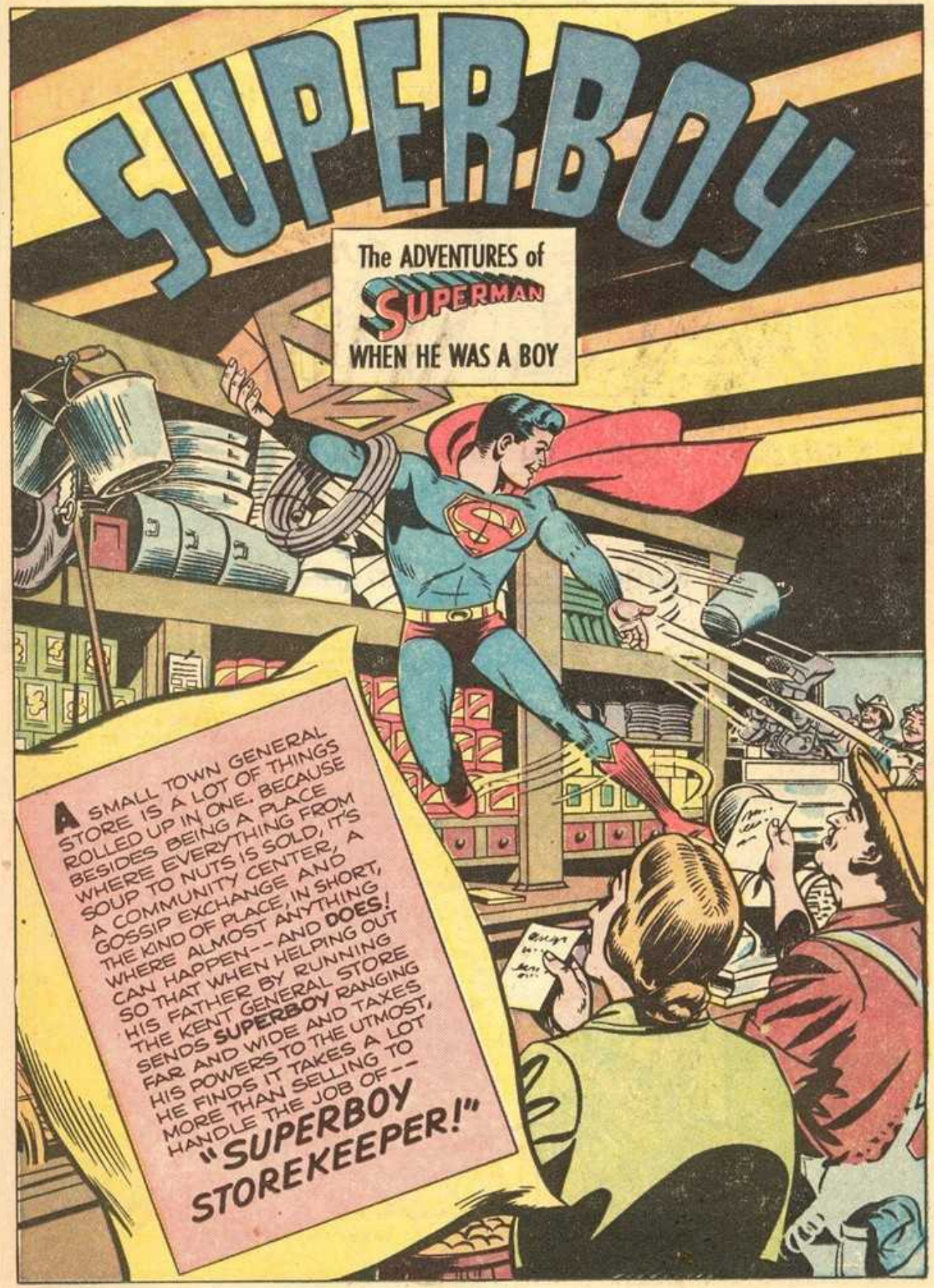
ALL THE KING'S HORSES AND ALL THE KING'S MEN COULDN'T PUT HUMPTY DUMPTY TOGETHER AGAIN--BUT SUPERBOY CAN PUT HIM IN JAIL!
JAIL WILL BE A PLEASURE AFTER THIS!

PRESENTLY, AT THE SMALLVILLE POLICE STATION...
HERE HE IS, CHIEF--AND HERE'S SOME OF HIS LOOT, WORTH A KING'S RANSOM! I'LL GET THE REST LATER!
HUMPTY DUMPTY IN THE FLESH--ALL OF IT! SUPERBOY, THIS IS THE BIGGEST CATCH THE SMALLVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS EVER MADE--THANKS TO YOU!

YOU'LL HAVE LOTS OF TIME TO THINK ABOUT RARE COINS IN HERE, HUMPTY DUMPTY--BAR MONEY FROM INDO-CHINA, BURMESE SNAIL MONEY TO REMIND YOU OF HOW SLOWLY TIME PASSES--AND EVEN LONG-TERM NOTES!
GO AWAY!
10

LATER...
WHAT A HOBBYIST SUPERBOY WOULD MAKE! WONDER WHERE HE IS, CLARK?
Smallville Star
HUMPTY DUMPTY JAILED AS HOBBY CRIME TOWER TOPPLES TO SUPERBOY!
HIDING SOMEWHERE, PROBABLY! HE'S BASHFUL, YOU KNOW!
THE END

WANT MORE THRILLS WITH SUPERBOY? READ ADVENTURE COMICS, NOW ON SALE!


SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
A SMALL TOWN GENERAL STORE IS A LOT OF THINGS ROLLED UP IN ONE. BECAUSE BESIDES BEING A PLACE WHERE EVERYTHING FROM SOUP TO NUTS IS SOLD, IT'S A COMMUNITY CENTER, A GOSSIP EXCHANGE AND THE KIND OF PLACE, IN SHORT, WHERE ALMOST ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN--AND DOES! SO THAT WHEN HELPING OUT HIS FATHER BY RUNNING THE KENT GENERAL STORE SENDS SUPERBOY RANGING FAR AND WIDE AND TAXES HIS POWERS TO THE UTMOST, HE FINDS IT TAKES A LOT MORE THAN SELLING TO HANDLE THE JOB OF--
"SUPERBOY STOREKEEPER!"

ONE MORNING, IN THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE IN SMALLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL . . .
YOU SENT FOR ME, SIR?
I'VE SOME UNPLEASANT NEWS FOR YOU, CLARK. YOUR FATHER'S BEEN HURT. YOU'RE TO GO HOME AT ONCE.
OUTSIDE, YOUNG CLARK SWITCHES TO HIS IDENTITY OF SUPERBOY AND STREAKS WORRIEDLY HOME . . .
IT'S NOT SERIOUS, SON. I TURNED MY ANKLE IN THE STORE AND I'LL HAVE TO STAY OFF MY FEET FOR A FEW DAYS.
AND SINCE I MUST LOOK AFTER FATHER, YOU'LL HAVE TO TEND THE STORE.
THE SCHOOL SAYS YOU'RE DOING WELL ENOUGH TO MISS A FEW DAYS FOR THIS EMERGENCY.
SURE, I'LL BE GLAD TO HELP.
AND SO CLARK BECOMES TEMPORARY BREAD-WINNER AS HE TAKES HIS FATHER'S PLACE BEHIND THE COUNTER OF THE KENT GENERAL STORE . . . .
THANKEE, CLARK. MY REGARDS TO YOUR FATHER.
CLARK--DID THAT SPECIAL CANNED TURKEY I ORDERED FOR MY SON'S HOME-COMING ARRIVE YET?
ER--I'LL SEE, MRS. EDWARDS.
HM--IT'S STILL ON ORDER. AND THIS WELCOME DINNER MEANS SO MUCH TO MRS. EDWARDS. SHE HASN'T SEEN HER SON IN THREE YEARS. HM--MAYBE SUPERBOY CAN GET THE STUFF FOR HER RIGHT AWAY. . . .
AGAIN, CLARK BECOMES SUPERBOY. A SPLIT SECOND LATER, AT THE CANNING PLANT TWO HUNDRED MILES AWAY. . . .
I'M SORRY, SUPER-BOY--BUT WE'RE WAITING FOR A PART FOR THIS MACHINE. MEANWHILE, ALL OUR ORDERS ARE PILED UP HERE TO BE TINNED.
HM--MAYBE I CAN SUBSTITUTE FOR THE MACHINE AND HELP US BOTH OUT!
2

JUST TWO MINUTES LATER, BACK BEHIND THE GENERAL STORE COUNTER...

HERE'S YOUR TURKEY, MRS. EDWARDS. SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, BUT I HAD TO RUMMAGE FOR IT. ER-- YOU'RE NEXT, MR. COOPER.
LOOK-- THESE HERE WOOL SOCKS I BOUGHT YESTERDAY FROM YOUR FATHER HAVE ALL COME UNRAVELED!

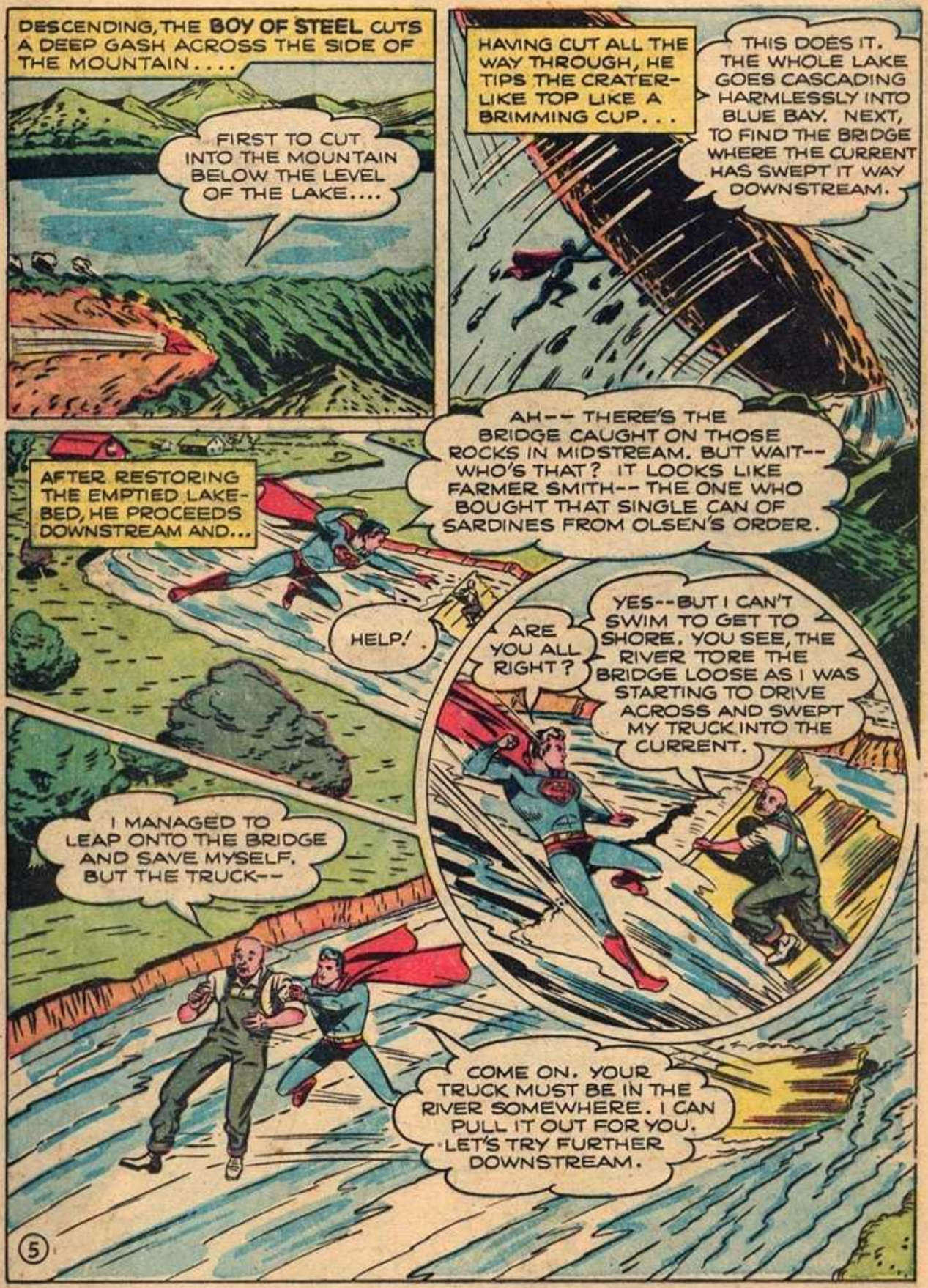
YOU WERE RIGHT TO BRING THEM BACK, MR. COOPER. JUST ONE SECOND.
(HM-- NOT ANOTHER PAIR IN STOCK-- SO, FIRST TO UNRAVEL THEM AND THEN-- A SECOND MORE TO REKNIT THEM BY HAND.)

REAPPEARING A MOMENT LATER....

SAY-- THESE ARE BETTER THAN THE OTHERS.
NO INCREASE IN PRICE EITHER, MR. COOPER. AFTERNOON, MR. SMITH.
HOW ABOUT A CAN O' THEM FANCY SARDINES UP THERE AS A LITTLE TREAT FOR MY MISSUS?
3

HM-- THIS IS A SPECIAL CASE WE GET IN EVERY WEEK FOR MR. OLSEN. STILL-- WHY SHOULD HE MIND IF I SELL YOU ONE CAN FROM IT?
SURE-- HE WON'T MIND.

AFTER SMITH LEAVES WITH HIS CAN OF SARDINES...
I CAN'T FIGGER OLSEN ORDERIN' A WHOLE CASE O' FANCY IMPORTED SARDINES EVERY WEEK.
YEAH--HE SURE HAS BEEN PUTTIN' ON AIRS LATELY. KEEPS TO HIMSELF, TOO. NOT LIKE HE USED TO BE. HIST--HERE HE COMES....
HOWDY, OLSEN.
HOWDY, GENTS. AFTERNOON, CLARK. HOPE YOUR FATHER'S BETTER. I'LL JUST TAKE THAT CASE O' SARDINES THAT COME IN TODAY.
HOPE YOU DON'T MIND BEING SHORT ONE TIN I JUST SOLD TO MR. SMITH.
WHAT? BUT--YOU HAD NO RIGHT. WHY--WHY--I NEED--I--ER--WELL--UH--SMITH, DID YOU SAY? ER--WHY, SURE. I WAS JUST SURPRISED AT ANYONE ELSE IN THESE PARTS GETTING A HANKERING FOR SUCH FANCY GROCERIES. GOOD DAY, BOY.
HM! WHY SHOULD HE ACT SO FUNNY ABOUT A CAN OF SARDINES? OH WELL, TIME TO CLOSE NOW AND DELIVER SOME OF THESE ORDERS TO THE FARMS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF MINNOW RIVER.
ANOTHER TRANSFORMATION, AND WE SEE SUPERBOY STREAKING NORTHWARD TO THE RIVER'S SOURCE HIGH UP AT BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE...
SETTING OUT IN THE DELIVERY WAGON, CLARK SOON REACHES THE RIVER CROSSING TO DISCOVER---
UH-UH! THE DAM UPSTREAM MUST'VE GIVEN WAY AND THE RUSH OF WATER MUST'VE TORN THE BRIDGE LOOSE. MM--CAN'T FIX THE DAM AND RESTORE THE BRIDGE WITHOUT FIRST LOWERING THE WATER LEVEL.
AH--THERE'S THE DAM BELOW--AND IT'S BURST ALL-RIGHT, SO THERE'S NOTHING TO CHECK THE HEAVY OVERFLOW FROM BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE. BUT I CAN FIX THAT!
4


DESCENDING, THE BOY OF STEEL CUTS A DEEP GASH ACROSS THE SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN....
FIRST TO CUT INTO THE MOUNTAIN BELOW THE LEVEL OF THE LAKE....
HAVING CUT ALL THE WAY THROUGH, HE TIPS THE CRATER-LIKE TOP LIKE A BRIMMING CUP...
THIS DOES IT. THE WHOLE LAKE GOES CASCADING HARMLESSLY INTO BLUE BAY. NEXT, TO FIND THE BRIDGE WHERE THE CURRENT HAS SWEPT IT WAY DOWNSTREAM.
AFTER RESTORING THE EMPTIED LAKE-BED, HE PROCEEDS DOWNSTREAM AND...
AH-- THERE'S THE BRIDGE CAUGHT ON THOSE ROCKS IN MIDSTREAM. BUT WAIT-- WHO'S THAT? IT LOOKS LIKE FARMER SMITH-- THE ONE WHO BOUGHT THAT SINGLE CAN OF SARDINES FROM OLSEN'S ORDER.
HELP!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES--BUT I CAN'T SWIM TO GET TO SHORE. YOU SEE, THE RIVER TORE THE BRIDGE LOOSE AS I WAS STARTING TO DRIVE ACROSS AND SWEPT MY TRUCK INTO THE CURRENT.
I MANAGED TO LEAP ONTO THE BRIDGE AND SAVE MYSELF. BUT THE TRUCK--
COME ON. YOUR TRUCK MUST BE IN THE RIVER SOMEWHERE. I CAN PULL IT OUT FOR YOU. LET'S TRY FURTHER DOWNSTREAM.

PRESENTLY....
SEE--THERE IT IS. ONCE I PULL IT ON SHORE, WE CAN DRY OUT THE ENGINE AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GET ON HOME.
SHORTLY AFTER....
THANKS, SUPERBOY. I'M ALL SET NOW. HM--WHERE'S THAT CAN O' FANCY SARDINES I BOUGHT? HOW COULD IT HAVE FALLEN OUT OF THE LOCKED GLOVE COMPARTMENT WHERE I PUT IT? THAT'S FUNNY.
MAYBE YOU FORGOT AND--
J.H.SMITH
--PUT IT SOMEWHERE ELSE AND IT GOT SWEPT INTO THE RIVER. ANYWAY, I'M OFF TO FIX UP THE DAM AGAINST THE NEXT RAIN WHEN BLUE LAKE OVERFLOWS AGAIN.
RACING UPSTREAM AGAIN, SUPERBOY MAKES A FRESH DISCOVERY AT THE DAM-SITE!
HUH? THIS DAM DIDN'T JUST GIVE WAY. SOMEONE *DELIBERATELY* HACKED IT THROUGH WITH AN AXE! BUT WHY? HM--I'D BETTER LOOK AROUND.
IN THE HARD CLAY OF THE BANK, SUPERBOY'S AMAZING X-RAY VISION DISTINGUISHES A FAINT CLUE.
FRESH TIRE TRACKS. AND THEY RUN UP TOWARD THE ROAD THAT PASSES THE OLSEN FARM. HM...OLSEN... OLSEN'S FANCY SARDINES... SMITH'S MISSING CAN... SEEMS FAR-FETCHED, BUT, I MAY AS WELL CHECK.

PRESENTLY, AT THE OLSEN FARMHOUSE, SUPERBOY'S X-RAY VISION CONFIRMS HIS FAR-FETCHED HUNCH....
WELL, WE CUT LOOSE THE DAM JUST AS SMITH STARTED ACROSS THE BRIDGE. THEN, LIKE WE FIGURED, THE TRUCK WAS SWEPT TO THAT BEND DOWN-STREAM AND WE GOT THE SARDINES WITHOUT--
--ANYONE EVEN KNOWING. SMITH MUST'VE LEAPED CLEAR OF THE TRUCK TO ESCAPE DROWNING BECAUSE THE CAB WAS EMPTY.
BUT-- THIS IS AWFUL!
HE MIGHT'VE DROWNED IN THE RIVER ANYWAY. IT'S MURDER! I WON'T STAND FOR IT. I'LL--
YOU'LL SHUT UP AND DO LIKE WE SAY, OR YOUR DAUGHTER DIES. REMEMBER, THE BOSS HAS HER NICE AND SAFE-- AND IF--
--ANYTHING GOES WRONG, YOU'LL NEVER SEE HER ALIVE AGAIN!
GREAT SCOTT! LUCY OLSEN A HOSTAGE AND I THOUGHT SHE WAS AT SCHOOL ON THE COAST. HM-- AND IF I INTERFERE NOW, THEY MAY KILL HER FIRST. NO--FIRST I MUST DISCOVER WHAT'S GOING ON!
SEARCHING CAUTIOUSLY ABOUT THE FARM, SUPERBOY DISCOVERS A NEW MYSTERY IN OLSEN'S BARN....
WHAT AN ODD MACHINE. WHAT'S IT FOR? AND OBVIOUSLY ONLY PARTLY FINISHED. HM-- IT SMELLS STRONGLY OF FISH, TOO, WHICH SUGGESTS SOME CONNECTION BETWEEN IT AND THOSE CANS OF SARDINES. BUT WHAT?
THOSE SARDINES COME FROM A CANNERY ON MILLS ISLAND IN THE CARRIBEAN. IT'S A U.S. PROTECTORATE. MAYBE I CAN LEARN SOMETHING DOWN THERE INSTEAD OF WAITING TO CHECK OLSEN'S WEEKLY ORDER WHEN IT ARRIVES!

SO AS TWILIGHT DESCENDS, SUPERBOY RACES SWIFTLY SOUTH-WARD TOWARD TINY MILLS ISLAND....
THE CANNERY WOULD BE CLOSED AT THIS HOUR, BUT I CAN INQUIRE AT THAT ARMY POST BELOW WHERE I CAN LOCATE THE PLANT MANAGER.
THAT'S ODD-- THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE A SOUL IN THIS BARRACKS BUILDING. I WONDER WHAT'S UP?
SUDDENLY....
HUH? WHAT'S THIS? WHY, THAT WHOLE WALL JUST DISINTEGRATED!
GREAT SCOTT! IT'S SUPERBOY! ARE--ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES, BUT--WHAT'S ALL THIS? THAT MACHINE-- THAT FLASH OF LIGHT THAT DISINTEGRATED THE WALL?
IT'S A NEW WEAPON THE ARMY'S TESTING, THAT SENDS OUT A RAY CAPABLE OF DISINTEGRATING SOLID MATERIALS. IF YOU'D BEEN AN ORDINARY PERSON IN THE RAY'S PATH, YOU'D HAVE DIED INSTANTLY!
HM-- SOMETHING VERY FAMILIAR ABOUT THAT MACHINE....
WELL--I ONLY WANTED TO FIND THE MANAGER OF THE MILLS CANNERY ON SOME BUSINESS. SORRY I BLUNDERED INTO YOUR SECRET WORK.
OH--THERE ARE NO SECRECY RESTRICTIONS ON THE ISLAND.

THERE ARE SUCH CLOSE INSPECTIONS AT THE PORT THAT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO SMUGGLE ANY COPIES OR PRINTS OF THE MACHINE OUT. SO WE ALLOW THE ISLANDERS TO COME AND GO.
HM...

STRUCK BY A SUDDEN IDEA, SUPERBOY ABRUPTLY TAKES HIS LEAVE OF THE ARMY MEN . . .
NOW I RECALL WHAT WAS FAMILIAR ABOUT THAT MACHINE! THAT GADGET IN OLSEN'S BARN WAS EXACTLY THE SAME--EXCEPT THAT OLSEN HAD ONLY PART OF THE MACHINE SET UP!

WHICH SUGGESTS SOMEONE'S SHIPPING A MODEL OF THE ARMY MACHINE, PART BY PART TO OLSEN. AND THAT, I'D GUESS, IS WHERE THOSE SARDINE CANS COME IN. ANYWAY, I'LL SKIP THE MANAGER AND DO SOME QUIET CHECKING OF THE CANNERY!

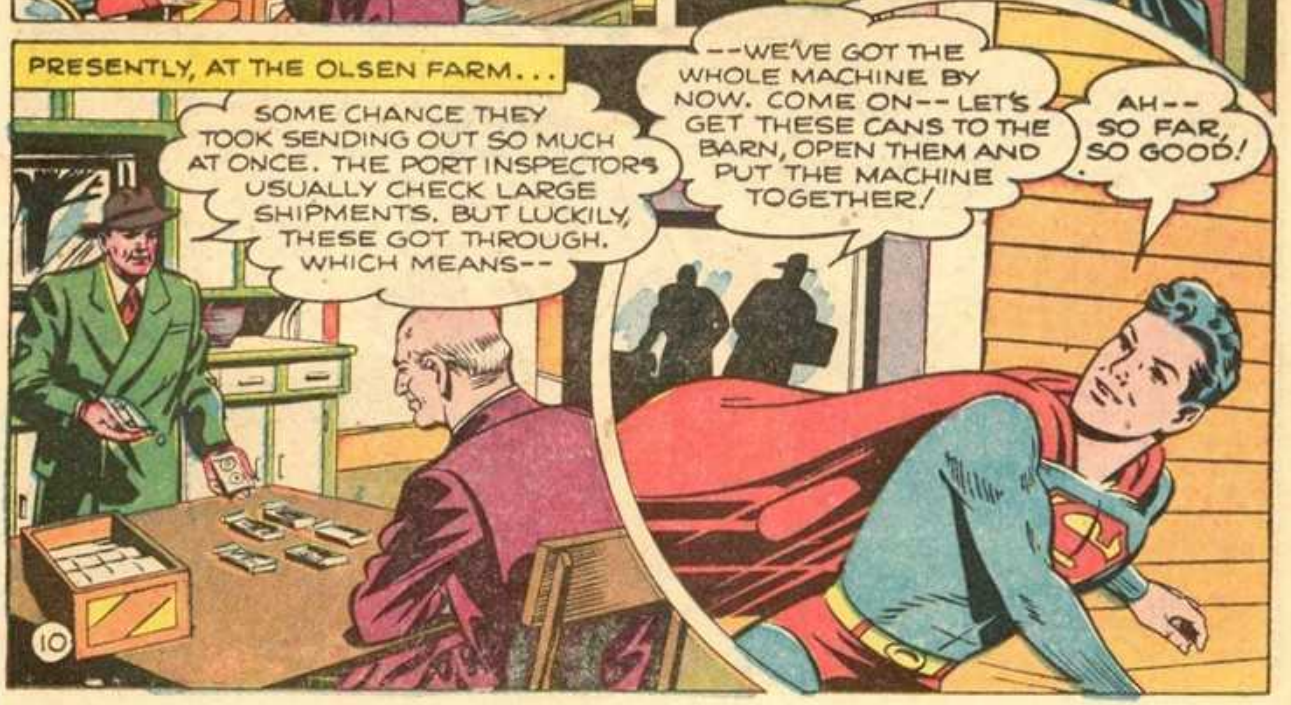
PRESENTLY, IN THE CANNERY STOCK-ROOM, THE BOY OF STEEL LOOKS OVER THE PACKED TINS . . .
ACCORDING TO MY X-RAY VISION, THERE'S NOTHING SUSPICIOUS INSIDE ANY OF THESE CANS. ALL PURE SARDINES. BUT WAIT--THERE'S A BIN FOR SMALLVILLE!
SMALLVILLE
CHICAGO
SO THIS IS IT. TINY PARTS OF THE MACHINE ARE BEING SENT IN SMALL WEEKLY SHIPMENTS, TO AVERT SUSPICION, TO FARMER OLSEN THROUGH MY FATHER'S STORE. AND AS THE PARTS ARRIVE, THEY'RE SLOWLY PUT TOGETHER!

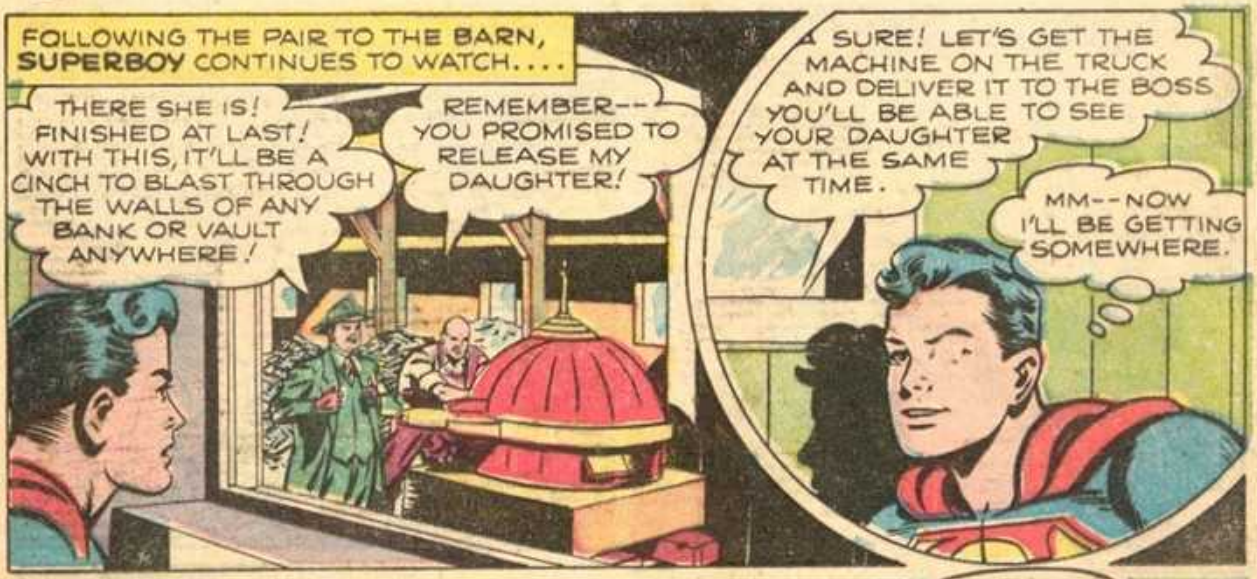
THESE ARE MARKED FOR SHIPMENT TO KENT'S GENERAL STORE IN SMALLVILLE. AND MY SUPERSENSITIVITY ALONE TELLS ME THAT EACH ONE WEIGHS JUST A LITTLE MORE THAN THREE OUNCES THEY'RE LABELED!
SMALLVILLE
KENT GENERAL STORE

WITH LUCY OLSEN A HOSTAGE, I CAN'T REVEAL MY HAND WITHOUT ENDANGERING HER. BUT THE CONTENTS OF THESE CANS SUGGEST A BETTER WAY OF SOLVING THE PROBLEM.
PRESENTLY....
NOW TO SEAL THE CANS AGAIN WITH SUPERFRICTION. AND INSTEAD OF PREMATURELY TRYING TO EXPOSE THE CROOKS' CONFEDERATES IN THIS CANNERY PLANT-- I'LL HELP THEM!

WHAT IS SUPERBOY'S PLAN? A FEW DAYS LATER, AS OLSEN APPEARS AT THE KENT GENERAL STORE....
BY THE WAY, MR. OLSEN, I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF ORDERING TEN CASES OF SARDINES IN ADVANCE INSTEAD OF BOTHERING WITH ONE CASE A WEEK. OF COURSE, YOU NEEDN'T TAKE THEM ALL AT once.
ER-WELL-- IF THEY'RE HERE, I MAY AS WELL.

LATER, AFTER OLSEN HAS GONE, CLARK AGAIN SWITCHES AT THE REAR OF THE STORE...
HE TOOK THEM, ALL RIGHT. NOW THAT I'VE GIVEN HIM TIME TO GET THEM HOME, I'LL SEE HOW THINGS ARE WORKING OUT.


PRESENTLY, AT THE OLSEN FARM...
SOME CHANCE THEY TOOK SENDING OUT SO MUCH AT ONCE. THE PORT INSPECTORS USUALLY CHECK LARGE SHIPMENTS. BUT LUCKILY, THESE GOT THROUGH. WHICH MEANS--
--WE'VE GOT THE WHOLE MACHINE BY NOW. COME ON-- LET'S GET THESE CANS TO THE BARN, OPEN THEM AND PUT THE MACHINE TOGETHER!
AH-- SO FAR, SO GOOD!


FOLLOWING THE PAIR TO THE BARN, SUPERBOY CONTINUES TO WATCH....
THERE SHE IS! FINISHED AT LAST! WITH THIS, IT'LL BE A CINCH TO BLAST THROUGH THE WALLS OF ANY BANK OR VAULT ANYWHERE!
REMEMBER-- YOU PROMISED TO RELEASE MY DAUGHTER!
SURE! LET'S GET THE MACHINE ON THE TRUCK AND DELIVER IT TO THE BOSS YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE YOUR DAUGHTER AT THE SAME TIME.
MM--NOW I'LL BE GETTING SOMEWHERE.

TWO HOURS LATER, AT AN ABANDONED HOUSE IN THE WOODS SEVERAL MILES FROM THE OLSEN FARM...
IT'S HERE AT LAST! WONDERFUL! BUT REMEMBER, OLSEN, IN CASE YOU SECRETLY TIPPED OFF THE COPS, YOUR DAUGHTER THERE'LL GET IT FIRST!
DON'T WORRY. I'M NOT CRAZY!

WHILE OUTSIDE...
LUCKY I ANTICIPATED THIS. IF I BURST IN NOW, LUCY OLSEN WOULD CERTAINLY BE SHOT BEFORE I COULD STOP THEM.
--LET'S GIVE THE MACHINE A TRY AT THIS FALSE WALL!

HERE GOES--
OW! HELP!
SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG! GET ME LOOSE!
EASY, BOSS-- I'LL SHUT IT OFF!
11

HERE'S--HUH?? OOCH! IT--IT'S GOT ME TOO!!
HELP!
YOU GUYS-- GET ME OUT!

LET ME-- OOCH!
OW!
WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?

SUDDENLY...
NOW THAT ALL YOU THUGS ARE NICELY TRAPPED BY YOUR OWN MACHINE SO THAT YOU CAN'T HARM THE OLSENS--MAYBE I CAN EXPLAIN!

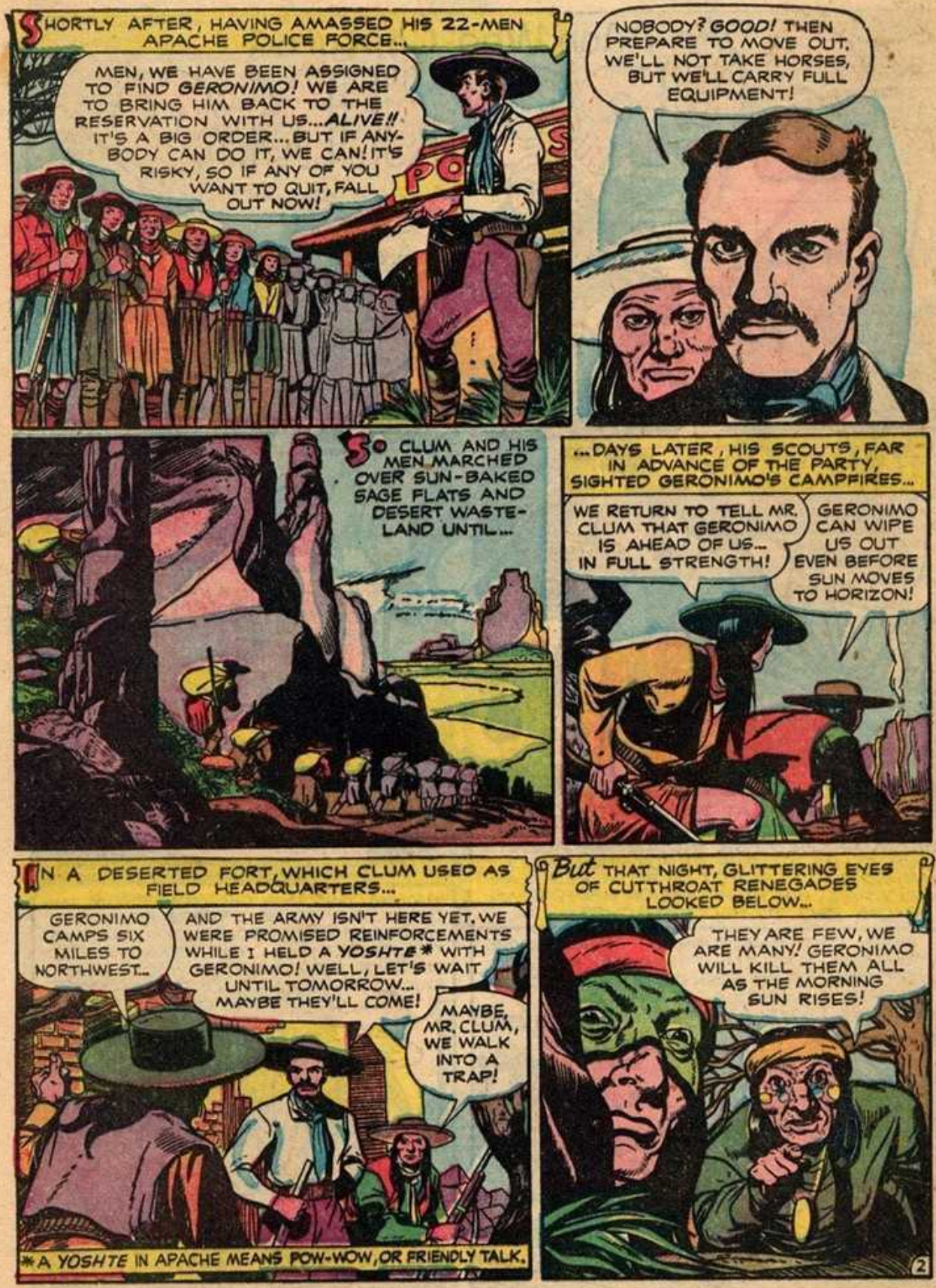
I OPENED THOSE CANS STILL AWAITING SHIPMENT TO YOU FROM MILLS ISLAND AND CAREFULLY CHANGED THE PARTS SO THAT THE MACHINE BECAME A TRAP FOR YOU! THEN I SIMPLY BROUGHT THE CANS TO THE KENT GENERAL STORE--

--AND EXPLAINED THINGS TO CLARK. NOW I KNOW YOU GENTLEMEN ARE PAINFULLY UNCOMFORTABLE, BUT IF YOU'LL REVEAL THE NAMES OF YOUR CONFEDERATES AT THE PLANT--
I--I'LL TALK! WHAT CAN I LOSE NOW? JUST GET ME OUTA HERE!

NEXT EVENING AT THE KENT HOME...
SUPERBOY FOILS SECRET WEAPON THEFT, FREES OLSEN FROM GANG PRESSURE AS FBI TAKES OVER.
IT SAYS HERE THEY CAUGHT THE OTHERS AT THE CANNERY, TOO. THE ASSISTANT MANAGER AND SOME SECRETARY TO THE MACHINE'S INVENTOR. SAY--YOU DIDN'T EVEN COMB YOUR HAIR--
--AND YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE TAKING LUCY OLSEN TO THE MOVIES, AREN'T YOU?
YES-- BUT WHY BOTHER GETTING SLICKED UP? ALL SHE CAN DO IS TALK TO ME ABOUT SUPERBOY, ANYWAY!
The End.
12

# The Man Who Captured GERONIMO

IN THE 1870'S, THE NAME GERONIMO STRUCK FEAR AND TERROR IN THE HEARTS OF EVERY MAN IN THE SOUTHWEST! LEADING HUNDREDS OF SAVAGE APACHES, HE LOOTED AND KILLED... WITHOUT FEAR OF CAPTURE! FOR GERONIMO SCORNED THE LAW AS HE ELUDED CRACK U.S. CAVALRY REGIMENTS AND CANNY MILITARY MEN! COULD ANYONE CAPTURE GERONIMO? YES, ONE MAN, AND HIS PLAN TO DESTROY THIS MENACE BEGAN
ONE AFTERNOON, AT THE SAN CARLOS INDIAN RESERVATION, WHEN A TELEGRAM ARRIVED FOR INDIAN AGENT JOHN CLUM. CLUM'S REPUTATION HAD EARNED THE RESPECT OF BOTH RED MAN AND WHITE. HIS RESERVATION HAD GROWN FROM 350 TO 4500 APACHES...
I FINISH MAKING GOOD LUCK CHARM FOR YOU, MR. CLUM!
THANKS, RUNNING EAGLE! BUT THINGS HAVE BEEN GOIN' MIGHTY GOOD OF LATE. I WON'T BE NEEDIN' IT!
MESSAGE FOR YOU, MR. CLUM!
HMMM. THIS IS A DIRECTIVE FROM THE COMMISSIONER. HE ORDERS ME TO TRY TO PERSUADE GERONIMO TO COME ONTO THE RESERVATION. THE ARMY WILL CO-OPERATE. TARNATION! THE WHOLE ARMY FAILED... WHAT CAN I... ONE MAN... DO?
WELL, ORDERS ARE ORDERS!


SHORTLY AFTER, HAVING AMASSED HIS 22-MEN APACHE POLICE FORCE...
MEN, WE HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO FIND GERONIMO! WE ARE TO BRING HIM BACK TO THE RESERVATION WITH US...ALIVE!! IT'S A BIG ORDER...BUT IF ANY-BODY CAN DO IT, WE CAN! IT'S RISKY, SO IF ANY OF YOU WANT TO QUIT, FALL OUT NOW!
NOBODY? GOOD! THEN PREPARE TO MOVE OUT. WE'LL NOT TAKE HORSES, BUT WE'LL CARRY FULL EQUIPMENT!
SO CLUM AND HIS MEN MARCHED OVER SUN-BAKED SAGE FLATS AND DESERT WASTE-LAND UNTIL...
...DAYS LATER, HIS SCOUTS, FAR IN ADVANCE OF THE PARTY, SIGHTED GERONIMO'S CAMPFIRES...
WE RETURN TO TELL MR. CLUM THAT GERONIMO IS AHEAD OF US... IN FULL STRENGTH!
GERONIMO CAN WIPE US OUT EVEN BEFORE SUN MOVES TO HORIZON!
IN A DESERTED FORT, WHICH CLUM USED AS FIELD HEADQUARTERS...
GERONIMO CAMPS SIX MILES TO NORTHWEST...
AND THE ARMY ISN'T HERE YET. WE WERE PROMISED REINFORCEMENTS WHILE I HELD A YOSHTE* WITH GERONIMO! WELL, LET'S WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW... MAYBE THEY'LL COME!
MAYBE, MR. CLUM, WE WALK INTO A TRAP!
*A YOSHTE IN APACHE MEANS POW-WOW, OR FRIENDLY TALK.
But THAT NIGHT, GLITTERING EYES OF CUTTHROAT RENEGADES LOOKED BELOW...
THEY ARE FEW, WE ARE MANY! GERONIMO WILL KILL THEM ALL AS THE MORNING SUN RISES!
2

AND AT DAWN...
SO JOHN CLUM COME TO TAKE ME...THE GREAT GERONIMO...PRISONER! OH, NO...GERONIMO TAKE CLUM...BUT NOT PRISONER. HIS BODY WILL BE BLEACHED YET BY THE DESERT SUN!

GERONIMO COMES!! WITH 50 WARRIORS! AND THEY WEAR WAR PAINT!
THERE'S NO CHANCE FOR US IF HE WANTS BATTLE! BUT WE CAN OUTSMART HIM IF WE SURPRISE HIM!

YOU 16 MEN HIDE IN THESE ABANDONED BARRACKS. THE OTHER SIX WILL REMAIN WITH ME AS I AWAIT GERONIMO! WE MAY BE ABLE TO BLUFF HIM OUT OF THE MASSACRE HE'S PROBABLY PLANNING!

WE WANT TO AVOID TROUBLE...BUT IF THAT'S WHAT HE WANTS...HE'LL GET IT! MY SIGNAL FOR YOU TO COME A-RUNNIN' WILL BE A RIFLE SHOT! THAT IS... IF I GET A CHANCE TO USE MY GUN!

BAD NEWS TRAVEL FAST, CLUM! NEWS OF YOU HAS REACHED ME! SO YOU TRY TAKE ME BACK, I KNOW ALREADY...BUT YOU DO NOT! AND YOU KNOW WHY?

THIS RIFLE TELLS YOU WHY!

AT THE SOUND OF THE SHOT... THE PRE-ARRANGED SIGNAL... THE BARRACKS DOOR ABRUPTLY BURST OPEN...
MR. CLUM'S SIGNAL!
THE RENEGADES WANT FIGHT! SHOOT TO KILL!!
YOU MAKE MAGIC! MY BULLET DID NOT KILL YOU!
BUT MY BULLET WILL KILL YOU! I WILL HAVE HONOR OF WIPING OUT GERONIMO!
NO, DON'T! I WANT GERONIMO... ALIVE! HE IS COMING BACK TO THE SAN CARLOS RESERVATION WITH US!
OW!! MY HAND!
THERE! GERONIMO, YOU WILL NEVER FIRE YOUR RIFLE AGAIN. YOU HAVE LOST FACE. YOU CAN NEVER LEAD YOUR MEN AGAIN!
LOOK! HE IS TAKING OUR CHIEFTAIN CAPTIVE! GERONIMO IS BEATEN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE!
THUS, A DAZED AND CONQUERED GERONIMO ENTERED THE RESERVATION, FOLLOWED BY HIS RENEGADES. AND OF ALL WHO MARVELED AT THE MIRACLE OF HIS SUBMISSION, JOHN CLUM WAS, BY FAR, THE MOST IMPRESSED.
HE WILL NEVER KNOW IT, BUT GERONIMO'S BULLET HIT THIS GOOD LUCK CHARM AND BOUNCED OFF WITHOUT HURTING ME!
The PLEASANT WAY OF RESERVATION LIFE SOON TAMED THE MOST SAVAGE AND NOTORIOUS INDIAN. BUT FOR THE QUICK WIT AND SHEER COURAGE OF JOHN CLUM, GERONIMO MIGHT HAVE PREVENTED THE GROWTH OF THE GREAT WEST FOR YEARS TO COME.
The END.

LITTLE PETE
HERE COMES THAT BIG BULLY. HE ALWAYS SQUIRTS US KIDS WITH WATER!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, LITTLE BOY? CAN'T YOU REACH THE FOUNTAIN FOR A DRINK?
HERE - I'LL GIVE YOU A LIFT!
SPLUT
THANKS! NOW WE'RE EVEN!
THE END

ADVERTISEMENT

# SUPERBOY says "GIVE YOUR TOWN A PRESENT!"

SMALLVILLE, HOME OF **SUPERBOY**, IS VISITED BY A GROUP OF OUT-OF-TOWN CIVIC LEADERS...

WE'RE ANXIOUS TO SEE THE KIND OF VOLUNTEER WORK THAT THE BOYS AND GIRLS HERE HAVE DONE TO MAKE THIS A MODEL TOWN.

AND I'VE VOLUNTEERED TO SHOW YOU!

TOWN H

MOMENTS LATER..

WELL! THIS IS SERVICE DE LUXE! THIS TYPE OF RAPID TRANSPORTATION ISN'T AVAILABLE IN OTHER TOWNS, I'M SURE!

FIRST STOP-- SMALLVILLE HOSPITAL...

THESE GIRLS PREPARE BANDAGES, SET UP TRAYS, FIX FLOWERS FOR PATIENTS, AND READ TO THEM.

I'M THINKING OF BEING A NURSE SOME DAY-- AND THIS IS A GOOD WAY OF LEARNING AS WELL AS BEING USEFUL.

NEXT-- SMALLVILLE MUSEUM...

WE'RE MAKING POSTERS ADVERTISING A NEW EXHIBIT NEXT WEEK.

I'M LEAVING NOW TO MAKE CLOTHES FOR THE YOUNGSTERS AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME.

SOME GET SCHOOL CREDIT FOR THEIR WORK, OTHERS DO IT JUST AS A HOBBY. BUT IN EITHER CASE THEY'RE HELPING THE TOWN!

THEN, A SCHOOL PLAYGROUND...

THERE'S AN OLDER BOY WHO'S HELPING THE COACH TEACH BEGINNERS FOOTBALL. HE'S PERFORMING A USEFUL FUNCTION-- AND AT THE SAME TIME GETTING VALUABLE EXPERIENCE HIMSELF.

FINALLY, AT THE END OF THE RAPID TOUR ...

THESE ARE ONLY SOME OF THE VOLUNTEER JOBS THE BOYS AND GIRLS HAVE UNDERTAKEN. SOME ARE BUSY NOW REHEARSING A RADIO PROGRAM TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE COMMUNITY CHEST, OTHERS ARE WRITING COPY FOR THEIR WEEKLY COLUMN IN OUR NEWSPAPER.

THERE'S A VOLUNTEER JOB FOR YOUNGSTERS IN EVERY TOWN. PITCH IN AND HELP MAKE YOUR TOWN A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE IN.'

SUPERMAN · DC · NATIONAL COMICS

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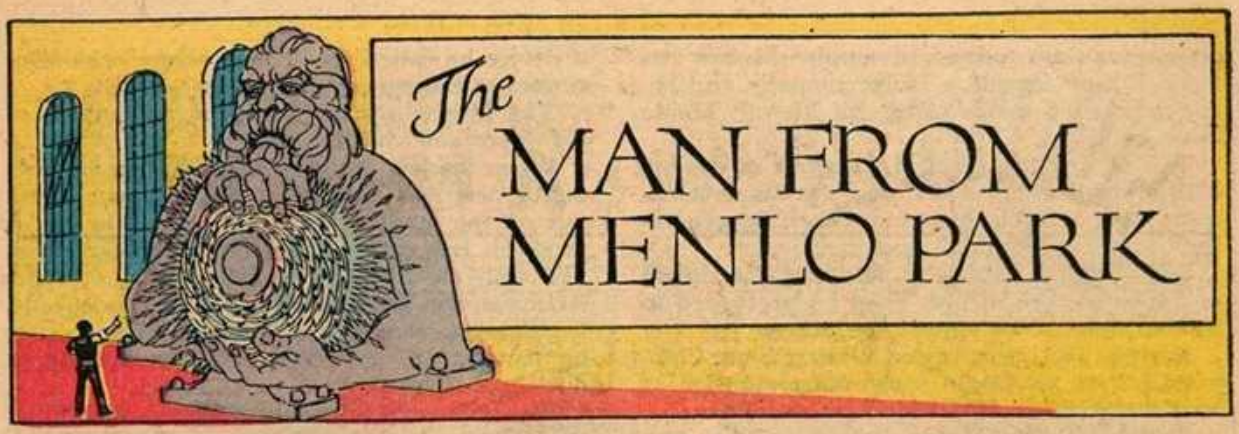


# The MAN FROM MENLO PARK

ON a warm, bright sunday afternoon in the autumn of 1875, a young man got off a train in a small northern New Jersey village.

The station agent observed the young man with a curiosity reserved for strangers and was not too favorably impressed. How could he foresee the activity, the excitement, and the fame Tom Edison and his eager young associates were to bring sleepy Menlo Park?

Many years before, another Edison had gone to another small town—Milan, Ohio. There, on Feb. 11, 1847, Thomas Alva Edison was born.

In 1854, when Tom was 7, his father moved his family to Port Huron, Mich. In the cellar of a large house his father purchased, Tom assembled his first chemical laboratory.

Tom's second laboratory was in the baggage car of the train from Detroit to Port Huron, when he worked as a train boy. In this strange traveling laboratory, Edison could satisfy his passion for experimenting while off-duty.

In 1868, when he was 21, Tom Edison turned up in Boston. Nine years later, Edison went back to Menlo Park. He was now a successful inventor and manufacturer. In the intervening years, he had taken out his first patent—an electrical vote recorder.

Then he had gone into partnership with Franklin L. Pope, an electrical engineer, improving stock tickers and making many new inventions.

He had assisted in making the first working model of a typewriter a man named Sholes had invented. He had worked on and completed many inventions, including automatic telegraph systems. His invention of the quadruplex system of telegraph was a great development, destined to save millions of dollars in wires.

He had developed paraffin paper, a carbon rheostat that was to play a great part in the telephone, and a microtasimeter to measure heat from the most distant stars. Now at 29 he had come to Menlo Park to make perhaps the greatest invention of all—a successful incandescent electric lamp.

Almost everyone has heard the story of Edison and his lamp. He began, typically, by studying everything he could find on gas lighting, then almost universally used for lighting shops, homes and streets. He searched high and low for a durable material from which to produce the filament. Finally his quest ended at home in Mrs. Edison's sewing basket!

It was in 1879 that he placed a bit of carbonized cotton thread, bent in horseshoe form, inside one of his sealed glass bulbs. Then, on October 19, this crude experimental lamp, was connected to an electric circuit. Current was switched on. The lamp responded instantly, glowing with a soft light. Then he sat down to watch the slender horseshoe of light, half expecting it to vanish.

About one o'clock on the second afternoon, more than 40 hours after it had first received the current—the filament burned out.

Edison was quiet in the hour of his tremendous success. As the little lamp glowed, he had envisioned "great cities lighted from central stations," and his mind was alive with plans. But all he said when the glow finally vanished was, "That's fine. That's fine. I think we've got it. If it can burn 40 hours, I can make it last a hundred."

In the days and weeks that followed, Menlo Park became a kind of Mecca for the interested and the merely curious. Farm folk and city folk, scientists and businessmen, came in ever increasing numbers to see the "Edison lights."

Among city officials who made the pilgramage to Menlo Park was a delegation representing New York's Board of Aldermen. The outcome of their visit was an agreement by which Edison was to install a trial lighting system in an area on lower Manhattan.

Putting the project on a profitable commercial footing proved to be a Herculean task—a far greater undertaking than the impatient New Yorkers realized. Plans for the installation were complete in essential detail, but devices had to be invented, developed, and built as the need for them arose.

Of necessity, Edison became a manufacturer. "There was nothing we could buy," he related. "or that anyone could make for us." So new

companies were formed to supply the new devices. Edison formed a lamp company and began producing lamps in one of his old Menlo Park buildings.

One of Edison's greatest triumphs in dealing with electrification of the area was his development of a suitable generator. Existing generators were far too small and inefficient.

The Wizard began by studying the design of dynamos then in use. Then he proceeded to fashion one unlike any of the others.

Early in 1881, the Edison Electric Light Company leased an ornate brownstone mansion at 65 Fifth Avenue, New York, for an office.

As they had at Menlo, Edison and his men worked with utter disregard of time. But all remarked about the wonderful spirit of comradeship which existed there.

Day and night, amid dirt and paving stones and the hurly-burly of traffic, Tom Edison worked with the laborers. Never regulated by a clock, he would work until tired, then go down to the building on Pearl Street where the first central station was being installed. Tossing an overcoat on a pile of tubes in a corner, he would lie down for a few hours' sleep. Going to bed meant delay and time wasted.

As an inventor, Edison was perhaps unequaled, but as a business man he was not outstanding. Because he could not be bothered with financial details, he received only a fraction of the value of his many inventions. Then, too, he was plagued by long and costly patent suits. There were many unscrupulous men who realized the tremendous potentialities of his inventions, and who did not hesitate to borrow freely from Edison patents.

The phonograph is often regarded as Edison's favorite "brain child." He was issued a patent on the first crude machine in 1877, but he became so absorbed in the development of his lighting system that the phonograph lay virtually unimproved for ten years.

In 1887, the inventor fell to work on the long neglected phonograph. It is interesting to note that while Edison's life seemed to be bound up in electricity, it was the phonograph—a mechanical instrument—that proved to be the most financially rewarding.

At about the same time, Edison was also turning out moving pictures at his laboratory. When Eastman invented a continuous tape-like film, Edison developed a motion picture camera which utilized the new film.

The first "movies" were viewed by thousands through the peepholes of the Edison "Kinetoscope." Later, the principle of the "magic lantern" was applied, with the images projected upon a screen. The era of the "Nickelodeon" had begun. By 1912, Edison had succeeded in combining his two great entertainment devices, the phonograph and the moving picture camera, in a device he called the "Kinetophone," the forerunner of talking pictures.

The Edison storage battery was another of his important contributions.

When the last of many problems was worked out, a new and radically different battery was put on the market. He could sell all he could produce. His customers were more than satisfied with the first model, but Edison, the perfectionist, was not. So, with the first model only beginning to reap rich rewards, he closed down his factory, and set about to improve the product.

We have come to think of World War II as the great war of science. But we have only to look at Edison's record to realize that technology played an important part in the conflict of 1914-1918. At the very outset of the struggle in Europe, the inventor realized that substitues would have to be found for many chemicals imported from Germany and England. He met the challenge by setting up plants to manufacture chemicals synthetically, thereby relieving the shortage of vital materials which threatened to shut down his battery and phonograph record plants.

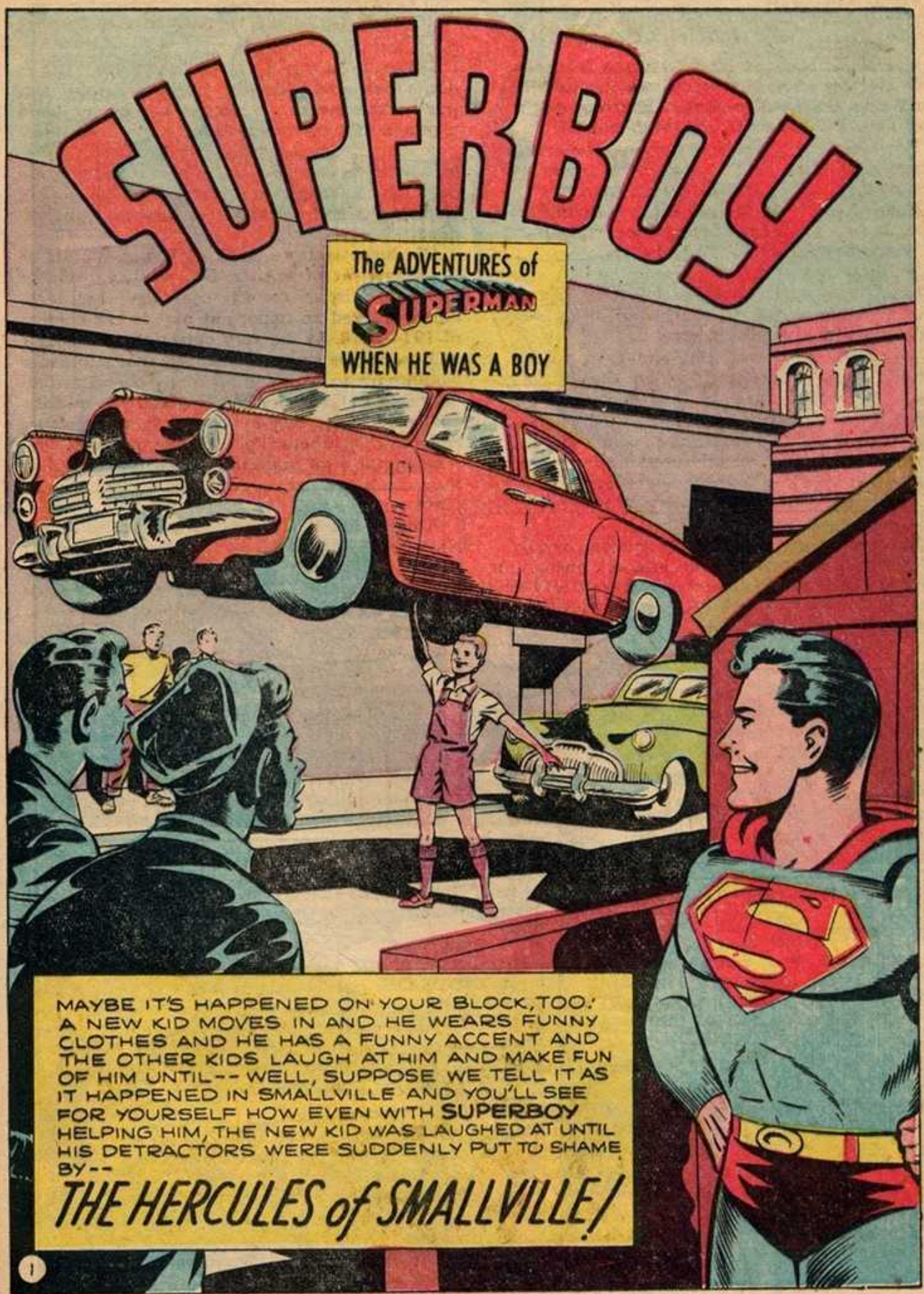
Edison was asked by the Secretary of the Navy in 1916 to serve on the Naval Consulting Board, a newly-formed body of eminent scientists. Putting aside all personal business, Edison devoted the next two years, without pay, to war research.

Soon after the Armistice, in 1918, Edison reorganized his laboratory force. He resumed his work in his old lab at Orange. And so, down to the time of his death in 1931, the beloved, white-haired genius thought, planned, worked, improved, invented, and investigated, from early morning till late at night.

Volumes have been written about Edison's contributions to mankind, his remarkable physical and mental powers, his inventive genius. But did he possess genius as we commonly define it? If genius is as Edison himself defined it, "One per cent inspiration and 99 per cent perspiration," the answer is YES. For his inventions were fashioned painstakingly through endless hours of trial and error, research and experiment. To find a needle in a haystack, Edison would have removed each wisp of hay from the pile.

The works of the man who would not recognize failure will long stand as a monument to his philosophy. Failure of an experiment to achieve a desired result was never discouraging. It meant only that he knew another combination that would NOT work. Thus, with every "failure" he gained new knowledge. To appreciate Edison fully, this philosophy must be understood. It is the reason for his infinite patience and perseverence, and the key to his success.

*(By permission of the General Electric Co.)*


SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
MAYBE IT'S HAPPENED ON YOUR BLOCK, TOO: A NEW KID MOVES IN AND HE WEARS FUNNY CLOTHES AND HE HAS A FUNNY ACCENT AND THE OTHER KIDS LAUGH AT HIM AND MAKE FUN OF HIM UNTIL-- WELL, SUPPOSE WE TELL IT AS IT HAPPENED IN SMALLVILLE AND YOU'LL SEE FOR YOURSELF HOW EVEN WITH SUPERBOY HELPING HIM, THE NEW KID WAS LAUGHED AT UNTIL HIS DETRACTORS WERE SUDDENLY PUT TO SHAME BY--
THE HERCULES of SMALLVILLE!
1

IN A CLASSROOM IN SMALLVILLE HIGH, THE TEACHER INTRODUCES A NEW STUDENT--
BOYS AND GIRLS--THIS IS HERCULES MAFIADES, JUST ARRIVED IN THIS COUNTRY FROM GREECE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY SOMETHING TO YOUR NEW CLASS-MATES HERCULES?
I AM GRATEFUL TO BE HERE AFTER--
--THE SAD TROUBLE AND POVERTY IN GREECE, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO GROW UP AS GOOD CITIZEN OF THIS FREE COUNTRY.
WE'RE HAPPY TO WELCOME YOU, HERCULES. YOU MAY TAKE YOUR SEAT NOW.
IN THE REAR, YOUNG CLARK KENT OVERHEARS A WHISPERED CONVERSATION...
PSSST--AIN'T THOSE CLOTHES FUNNY? AND THE WAY HE TALKS ENGLISH--IT'S A HOWL. I'M GONNA HAVE SOME FUN WITH HIM.
UH-UH! BUSTER CRAIN, THE SCHOOL BULLY, MEANS TO PICK ON THE NEW KID JUST BECAUSE HE'S A FOREIGNER.
NOW--ALL OF YOU--STUDY CHAPTER THREE IN YOUR HISTORY BOOKS WHILE I STEP OUT FOR A MOMENT TO GET HERCULES A SET OF BOOKS FROM THE STORE-ROOM.
BUT THE MOMENT THE TEACHER LEAVES...
WATCH ME MAKE THAT GREENHORN JUMP!
THAT NEW KID'S HAD A TOUGH ENOUGH TIME WHERE HE CAME FROM. I'M NOT GOING TO LET HIM BE PICKED ON HERE!
USING HIS X-RAY VISION, CLARK, WHO IS REALLY SUPERBOY, GENERATES HEAT TO MELT THE SLING-SHOT RUBBER AND--
THAT'S GIVING BUSTER A TASTE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE.
SNAP!
OOCH!
2

DETERMINED TO BEFRIEND THE NEWCOMER, YOUNG CLARK MEETS HIM AFTER SCHOOL....
EVEN THOUGH HE MAKE FUN OF MY CLOTHES AND MY BAD ENGLISH, THIS BOY BUSTER ASK ME AT RECESS TO TAKE PART IN SCHOOL PLAY.
WELL, MAYBE THE OTHER KIDS MADE HIM ASHAMED OF THE WAY HE WAS TREATING YOU. THE AUDITORIUM'S THIS WAY, HERCULES.
BUT IN THE AUDITORIUM, BUSTER, MEANWHILE, REVEALS HIS REAL PURPOSE...
SINCE HIS NAME IS HERCULES, TOO, AND HE'S A REAL GREEK, I ASKED HIM TO TRY OUT FOR THE PART OF HERCULES IN OUR PLAY.
GEE, BUSTER, I'M GLAD YOU DECIDED TO GIVE THE NEW KID A BREAK.
NOW HERE'S WHAT I'M GOING TO TELL HIM... BZZZ... BZZZ..
GOSH, BUSTER, IT'S NOT VERY FAIR. BUT--ER-- IF YOU INSIST--
HEY--HERE HE COMES-- AND CLARK KENT'S WITH HIM!
DON'T BE A SAP! WOULD I REALLY GIVE THE MAIN PART TO A DUMB FOREIGNER? I'M SAVING THE PART OF HERCULES FOR MYSELF. I JUST WANTED TO HAVE A LITTLE FUN WITH HIM.
HIYA, PAL. THE PART'S WAITING FOR YOU IF YOU PASS THE TESTS. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS PERFORM SOME OF THE LABORS OF HERCULES! HA-HA! BUT THAT SHOULD BE EASY FOR YOU!
OH-- BUT HOW I CAN DO THAT?
HELLO, EVERYBODY.
HM--MY SUPER-HEARING JUST CAUGHT BUSTER CRAIN PLOTTING A MEAN TRICK ON HERCULES. I SHOULD'VE REALIZED THAT BUSTER WOULDN'T HAVE HAD A CHANGE OF HEART SO EASILY
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YOU REMEMBER HOW HERCULES CLEANED THE AUGEAN STABLES? WELL-- FARMER MOORE SAYS WE CAN HAVE A SUMMER THEATER THERE IF WE CLEAN OUT HIS OLD BARN. THAT'S YOUR FIRST TEST. SEE!
WELL-- MY BEST I WILL TRY.
HA-HA! HE FELL FOR IT! WHAT DUMMIES THESE GREENHORNS ARE! WAIT'LL HE SEES THAT BARN!
HM-- BUSTER NEEDS TO BE TAUGHT A LESSON! AND I INTEND TO DO IT AS SUPERBOY!
LATER THAT DAY, AT FARMER MOORE'S BARN, AS CLARK KENT WATCHES IN HIS ROLE OF SUPERBOY....
MY NEW FRIENDS SURELY PLAY TRICK ON ME, BUT ONLY TO SEE PERHAPS IF I AM GOOD SPORT LIKE OTHER AMERICANS. (YAWN) SO-- I SHOW THEM...
HE'S ALL TIRED OUT, BUT HE MEANS TO GO THROUGH WITH IT!
SO TIRED... MAYBE BETTER TO REST A LITTLE... (YAWN)... THEN START FRESH. (YAWN)...
HE'S FALLEN ASLEEP FROM EXHAUSTION. NOW'S MY CHANCE!
THE BOY OF STEEL SETS TO WORK ON THE OLD BARN WITH LIGHTNING SPEED....
FIRST-- I'LL CLEAR THIS JUNK OUT-- AND THEN--
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--JUST AS HERCULES DID WITH THE AUGEAN STABLES, I'LL CUT A DITCH FROM THIS CREEK AND DIVERT THE WATER THROUGH THE BARN TO FLUSH IT CLEAN!

AFTER THE CREEK HAS DONE ITS WORK AND BEEN RESTORED TO ITS ORIGINAL COURSE, **SUPERBOY** ADDS A FEW FINISHING TOUCHES...

SHORTLY AFTER...

WHY--WHY--I MUST HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP--BUT--BUT THE BARN--DID I DO IT? I HAVE HEAR OF PEOPLE DOING WONDERFUL THINGS WHILE THEY SLEEP--SO IT MAY BE. YES--THE TASK IS FINISH!

NEXT AFTERNOON, AT A DRAMATIC CLUB REHEARSAL....

YOU SEE--HE REALLY DID IT. DON'T ASK ME HOW--BUT HE DID! THE BARN IS FINISHED!
YES--I--I-- SAW IT. ER-- THAT'S GREAT, HERCULES. I STILL DON'T SEE HOW YOU--ER--WELL--WHAT I MEAN IS--

-- WE'VE GOT TO GIVE YOU ONE MORE TASK TO BE SURE! ACCORDING TO THIS BOOK OF GREEK MYTHS, HERCULES HAD TO FIGHT THE MONSTER HYDRA--

"--AND AS FAST AS HE CUT OFF ONE HEAD, TWO OTHERS GREW UP IN ITS PLACE..."

BUT OF COURSE WE CAN'T GET A HYDRA, SO INSTEAD ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS CUT DOWN ALL THE TREES BEHIND SNELL'S ROAD WHERE SMALLVILLE HIGH INTENDS TO BUILD A STADIUM WHEN IT GETS THE MONEY!
I--I WILL BE A GOOD SPORT AND TRY.

LATER THAT DAY....
ONLY ONE TREE-- (YAWN)--AND ALREADY I AM TIRED OUT, BUT I MUST SHOW I AM GOOD SPORT AND KEEP TRYING.... (YAWN)
GOOD--HE'S SO TIRED NOW, HE'LL FALL ASLEEP IN A MOMENT!

AND, SURE ENOUGH, AS THE STOUT-HEARTED BOY FALLS ASLEEP, SUPERBOY SWINGS INTO ACTION, UPROOTING THE MIGHTY FOREST GIANTS WITH HIS BARE HANDS...
AFTER I GET THESE TREES DOWN, INSTEAD OF WASTING ALL THIS FINE TIMBER, I MAY AS WELL USE IT TO BUILD THAT STADIUM!
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USING THE FLAT OF HIS HANDS AS CUTTING TOOLS, THE BOY OF STEEL STRIPS THE BARK AND PLANES THE TREES INTO BROAD PLANKS...
ONE OTHER PROBLEM--FRESH WOOD WARPS AND ORDINARILY IT TAKES MONTHS FOR TIMBER TO DRY PROPERLY, BUT--
--BY GENERATING X-RAY HEAT WHICH WON'T CAUSE THE PLANKS TO CATCH FIRE, I CAN DRY OUT THE SAP IN NO TIME AT ALL!
AND NOW, HAVING NOTCHED THE PLANKS, I CAN PUT THE STADIUM TOGETHER WITHOUT REQUIRING A SINGLE NAIL!
PRESENTLY, AS HERCULES AWAKENS...
WHAT--WHY--WHY--AGAIN I SLEEP AND--AGAIN THE TASK IS FINISHED--EVEN THE STADIUM--BUT NO! THIS CANNOT BE! I AM ONLY LITTLE HERCULES AND THIS LOOKS LIKE THE WORK OF--OF-- SUPERBOY THAT I HAVE HEAR TALES ABOUT!
SUSPECTING THE REAL TRUTH, HERCULES HAS A STRUGGLE WITH HIS CONSCIENCE!
YES-- SUPERBOY IS ONLY EXPLANATION TO MAKE SENSE. BUT THEN-- IT IS NOT FAIR. IF I DID IT NOT MYSELF, THEN I MUST NOT TAKE TO MYSELF THE CREDIT! OTHERWISE I AM LIAR!

SO, LATER THAT DAY, AS THE DRAMATIC GROUP COMES TO SEE THE NEW STADIUM. . .
DIDN'T I TELL YOU HE WAS A REAL HERCULES?
NO! THIS I COULD NOT DO MYSELF. I THINK SUPERBOY DO IT! I THINK SUPERBOY DO IT WHEN I FALL ASLEEP!
SEE! HE ADMITS IT! HE CHEATED! SUPERBOY DID IT FOR HIM!
WAIT A MINUTE, BUSTER. DOESN'T THAT BOOK OF GREEK MYTHS SAY THE GODS HELPED HERCULES? YET NO ONE SAID HERCULES CHEATED!
CLARK IS RIGHT! IF SUPERBOY HELPED HERCULES, THAT'S FAIR ENOUGH. BESIDES HERCULES TRIED, DIDN'T HE?
ANYWAY, IF SUPERBOY IS FOR HERCULES, THEN SO AM I! I SAY HE GETS THE PART!
NO-- NO--I WILL NOT TAKE PART.
YES YOU WILL! IT'S YOURS NOW! I'LL SETTLE FOR BEING STAGE MANAGER. I WANT THEM ALL TO SEE HOW YOU RUIN THE PLAY!
SEVERAL DAYS LATER, WITH THE CURTAIN ABOUT TO RISE BEFORE AN EAGER AUDIENCE OF STUDENTS....
NOW, HERCULES, JUST GO OUT THERE AS YOU DID IN REHEARSAL AND START CLEARING AWAY THOSE PAPIER MACHE ROCKS!
AND I SAY LINES ABOUT BEING STRONGEST MAN IN WORLD. I REMEMBER!

AS THE CURTAIN RISES....
I, HERCULES, WORLD'S STRONGEST MORTAL, WILL CLEAR BOULDERS FROM FIELD SO SHEPHERDS CAN GRAZE FLOCKS... I--I---
HAW! SOME HERCULES! HE CAN'T EVEN LIFT THOSE ROCKS!
IN THE WINGS, CLARK, NOTING SOMETHING WRONG, MAKES A DISCOVERY WITH HIS X-RAY EYES....
UH-UH--NO WONDER HE CAN'T BUDGE THOSE ROCKS. THEY'RE FILLED WITH REAL ROCKS! HM--BUSTER'S WORK--I'M POSITIVE! HE WAS IN CHARGE OF THE PROPS!
SO BY BLOWING HARD, I CAN FORCE THE AIR FROM THE TOP OF THE ROCK AND IT, TOO, WILL LIFT TO FILL THE VACUUM WITH JUST A LITTLE BIT OF HELP FROM HERCULES!
ANXIOUS TO SAVE THE PLAY, CLARK HAS A REAL INSPIRATION....
I'LL USE THE PRINCIPLE THAT MAKES PLANES FLY. AIR HITTING THE LEADING EDGE OF A WING IS FORCED WAY UP, LEAVING A VACUUM ABOVE THE WING SO THAT THE WING RISES TO FILL THE VACUUM...
BUSTER SHOULD BE BACKSTAGE LIGHTING THE BULBS THAT ARE SUPPOSED TO SIGNIFY FIRE. BUT HE'S STALLING!
AND NOW, PEOPLE OF ATHENS, I DRAW FIRE FROM GROUND WITH HELP OF THE SUN-GOD, APOLLO!
AND SO, PRESENTLY, THE STAGE IS CLEARED OF "ROCKS" AND THE PLAY CONTINUES....

MEANWHILE, BACKSTAGE....
I CAN'T FIGURE HOW THAT DUMB GREENHORN EVER GOT THOSE WEIGHTED BOULDERS MOVED, BUT WAIT'LL THIS SMOKE-BOMB I RIGGED UP TO THOSE BULBS GOES OFF! HE'LL REALLY LOOK SILLY!
BUT AS A CLOUD OF BLACK SMOKE SUDDENLY COVERS THE STAGE, THE EFFECT IS MORE THAN BUSTER ANTICIPATED!
(COUGH) IT--IT MUST BE REAL FIRE!
DID YOU HEAR? A REAL FIRE! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
AS BUSTER'S THOUGHTLESS PRANK SPREADS PANIC THROUGH THE AUDIENCE . . .
HELP! I CAN'T SEE!
IT'S ONLY A SMOKE-BOMB, BUT A PANIC'S STARTING. I'LL BECOME SUPERBOY WHILE NO ONE CAN SEE ME. I'VE GOT TO SEE THAT NO ONE GETS HURT RUSHING TO THE EXITS!
STREAKING SWIFTLY TO DETACH ONE OF THE REVOLVING DOORS FROM THE AUDITORIUM ENTRANCE, SUPERBOY USES IT TO CLEAR AN OPENING IN THE DENSELY SPREADING SMOKE . . .
IF I JUST CLEAR OUT THE SMOKE COMPLETELY, IT WON'T STOP THE MAD RUSH FOR THE EXITS. THE ONLY WAY TO PREVENT INJURY IS TO KEEP EVERYONE IN THEIR SEATS--
--BY CLEARING THE SMOKE FROM THE AUDITORIUM PROPER AND FORMING IT IN A RING AROUND THE WALLS SO THAT THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO REACH THE EXITS. THERE-- IT'S WORKING ALREADY!
THE SMOKE'S BLOCKING THE EXITS!
LET'S GET TO OUR SEATS WHERE IT'S CLEAR!

WITH SUPERBOY BUSY IN THE AUDITORIUM, A CLOUD OF SMOKE FILTERS BACK TOWARD BUSTER IN THE WINGS . . .
(COUGH) I--I CAN'T SEE! IF I CAN ONLY GET TO A CLEAR SPOT!
UNAWARE OF LOOSENING THE ROPE SECURING THE HEAVY STAGE CURTAIN, BUSTER, HALF-BLINDED, RUSHES WILDLY ONSTAGE . . .
IT'S BUSTER! THE CURTAIN'LL HIT HIM!
WATCH OUT!
HE CAN'T SEE! HE'LL BE HURT UNLESS--
WITH THE OTHERS PARALYZED BY FRIGHT, HERCULES KEEPS HIS PRESENCE OF MIND AND--
THIS BALL THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO REPRESENT EARTH IN THE PLAY--IF I CAN PUSH IT TOWARD CURTAIN IN TIME . . . .
AH--IT IS SUCCESSFUL!
CRASH
LOOK! HERCULES SAVED HIM!
YOU HAD A CLOSE CALL, BUSTER. THAT CURTAIN WOULD HAVE FINISHED YOU!
YOUR QUICK THINKING SAVED HIM, HERCULES!
WHAT? HERCULES SAVED ME? WHY--
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MEANWHILE, **SUPERBOY**, AFTER ENDING THE PANIC, REPLACES THE REVOLVING DOOR AS, WITH A LAST SPIN, HE USES IT TO DISPERSE THE SMOKE AT THE EXITS . . . .

THAT'S THE LAST OF THE SMOKE. NOW TO GET BACK INSIDE AS CLARK KENT.

SECONDS LATER, ENTERING AS CLARK KENT FROM THE WINGS, HE WITNESSES A SURPRISING SCENE . . . .

YOU--YOU SAVED ME, HERCULES AND--AND--WELL--IN FRONT OF EVERYBODY IN THIS AUDIENCE, I WANT TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU AND CONFESS THAT IT ALL HAPPENED BECAUSE I TRIED TO WRECK THE PLAY FOR YOU--

--BECAUSE MY PREJUDICE AGAINST YOUR BEING A FOREIGNER WOULDN'T LET ME SEE WHAT A SWELL GUY YOU REALLY ARE!

NO--NO--YOU MAKE TOO MUCH OF NOTHING. ER--LET US GO ON WITH THE PLAY!

THREE CHEERS FOR HERCULES!

'RAY FOR HERCULES AND **SUPERBOY**!

I--I'LL GET BACK AND RAISE THE CURTAIN. NOW WE CAN REALLY FINISH THE PLAY!

BUT LATER, WITH THE PLAY ENDED SUCCESSFULLY, THERE IS A RECKONING IN THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE. . . .

BUSTER, YOU DESERVE EXPULSION FOR THE DANGER YOU THOUGHTLESSLY CREATED. BUT **SUPERBOY** AND YOUR FRIEND, HERCULES, HAVE PERSUADED ME YOU'VE LEARNED A LESSON WORTH MORE THAN ANY PUNISHMENT. SO--I'M GIVING YOU ANOTHER CHANCE!

TH-THANKS--ALL OF YOU!

THE END.